

TWI-LIGHTS

VOLUME 1 | WINTER 2018

Hit the Trails

EXPLORE THE WEGMANS
PASSPORT PROGRAM AND
MEET OUR FIVE NEW TRAILS

First Day Hikes

OVER 30 PEOPLE TOOK PART IN
“FIRST DAY HIKES” ON TRAILS
THROUGHOUT WAYNE COUNTY

Membership

TRAIL WORKS MEMBERSHIP
RUNS MARCH 1-MARCH 1—
CONSIDER SUPPORTING THE
TRAILS IN WAYNE COUNTY
THROUGH MEMBERSHIP

Starting the Year on the Right Foot

Over 30 people took part in our Wayne County First Day Hikes, ringing in the New Year at one of three locations: Casey Park, Black Brook Park, and West Shore Trail. The frigid temperatures and deep snow did not deter as hikers bundled up. Participants at West Shore Trail snowshoed, noting “the setting was beautiful with the glistening snow and we were treated to the sight of geese and swans taking off when we reached the clearing.” Hikers at Black Brook visited Historic Lock Berlin and E56, combining history with their exercise. Hikers, snow and shoe-ers were treated to a tail gate party of hot beverages and brownies after completing their invigorating hike at Casey Park in Ontario. First Day Hikes have become a National tradition, a way to start the new year off on the right foot.

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Our most recent winter event was the Winter Hike (snowshoe and ski) on Sunday, February 4th at 2:00 p.m. at Jim and Carol May’s Farm, 7304 Stoney Lonesome Rd., Williamson. Varying distances were available through the orchard and nearby woods, following established snowmobile trails. Some ambitious cross-country skiers have been known to follow the snowmobile route to Pultneyville Deli (approx. 3+ miles) where they have pre-parked a car for the return to the barn. Hot drinks and snacks were available, and participants brought snacks to share. Look for a full report in our Spring “TWI-Lights.”

CAROL MAY





TRAIL WORKS 2018-2019 MEMBERSHIP

Dear Trail Works Members and Friends,

If you have not yet renewed your Trail Works membership for the 2018-2019 year, your membership in Trail Works is about to expire in March 2018. Thank you for your previous support for Trail Works' mission, and we hope we can continue to count on your support for the coming year (03/2018-03/2019).

Please take a moment to return your membership dues (Individual-\$15.00, Family-\$30.00, and Corporate- \$20.00), along with the renewal form.

Trail Works is a nonprofit organization dedicated to being a unified voice for Wayne County trail users and to coordinate the development and maintenance of high-quality, year-round, multi-use trails.

Your dues help us to embody public education about trails and increase public awareness of trail issues. We recognize the importance of the relationship Trail Works has established with local and county governments. These relationships are vital to moving ahead on any plans for trail developments. So, we are all about trails—planning trails, cutting trails, maintaining trails, posting signage and enjoying trails.

We strive to preserve Wayne County heritage and green spaces for the enjoyment and recreation of our future generations. Please renew your membership today.

Happy Trails,
CINDY AMAN
Trail Works Membership Chair

Trail Works, Inc. 2018-2019 Membership Form

Please check the type of membership:

- ☐ single
- ☐ corporate
- ☐ affiliate club (club name: _____)
- ☐ family (# of family members: _____)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: () _____

Email: _____

Please make all checks payable to:

Trail Works, Inc.
ATTN: Membership
PO Box 43
Williamson, NY 14589

Trail Spotlight: Alasa Farms



Location: 6450 Shaker Road in Sodus. Parking is in the field at the junction of Shaker and Red Mills Roads (seasonal) and behind the bunkhouse at the main Farm entrance on the east side of Shaker Road

Hiking Distance: 6.5 miles total

Difficulty: Easy to moderate. Terrain ranges through open field edges to steep slopes and narrow trails in the woods. Second Creek crossing is not bridged and must be forded by walking in the creek on the bedrock stream-bed.

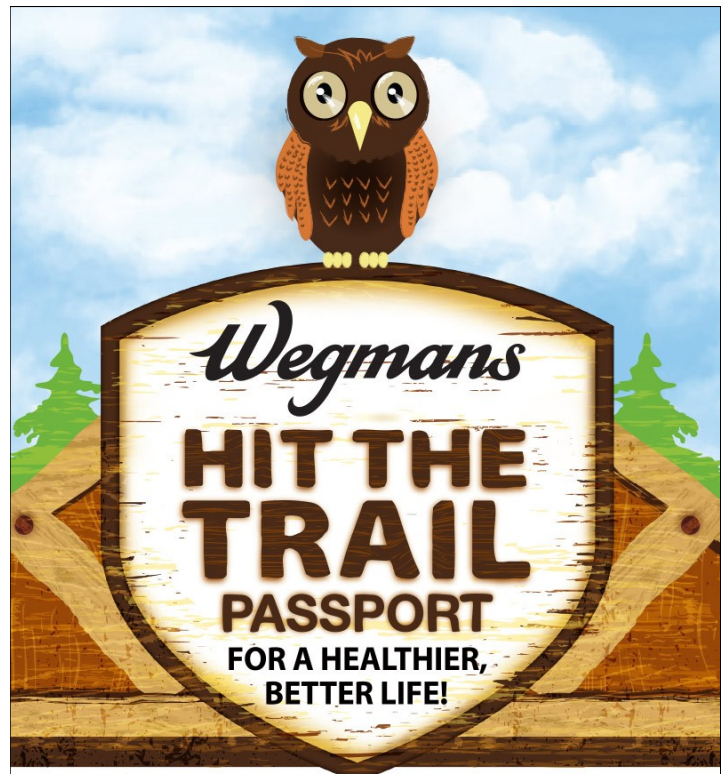
Features: Hiking, skiing and equestrian use, wildlife habitat conservation, natural and agrarian areas, friendly farm animals, historic Shaker farm site. Self-guiding Farm Tour Booklets available on site. Alasa Farms is preserved in partnership with Genesee Land Trust.

Wegmans “Hit the Trail” Passport

Trail Works will be rolling out our newest “Hit the Trail” Passport soon, and we are inviting everyone to reacquaint yourself with your favorite trails and check out our five new ones. We will feature a presentation on the new passport on Tuesday, April 17th at Lyons National Bank in Ontario; passport books will be available, and Trail Works board members will be on hand to answer any questions you might have.

The Wayne County Wegmans Hit the Trail Passport program runs continuously. In order to enter for the chance to win a \$250 Wegmans gift card, you need to complete 15 of the 30 trails in the booklet and bring it to Cornell Cooperative Extension on Rt. 88 in Newark. If you complete all 30 trails, you will have 2 entries in the drawing. The drawing will be held annually in the Fall and your entry remains in the pool.

for more information
on the Wegmans “Hit the Trail” Passport
visit www.trailworks.org





THE PARKS, TRAILS, AND PATHS OF IRELAND

At our January 16th meeting, I had the pleasure of presenting on the “Parks, Trails, and Paths of Ireland.” Spending much time walking and hiking through the Irish countryside on two separate trips in January 2016 and October 2017, I shared stories on visiting all six national parks, along with the many trails and paths I traversed both on foot and in my car.

The six national parks in Ireland are: Killarney, Wicklow Mountains, The Burren, Connemara, Ballycroy, and Glenveagh. While the parks have much in common, each has its own landscape and personality. Some feature ancient ruins, such as the 6th century monastic settlement of Glendalough in the Wicklow Mountains. Others are especially known for featuring their natural beauty, such as the harsh limestone landscape of The Burren, or the Mayo Dark Sky Park in Ballycroy National Park. Others, such as Killarney, Connemara, and Glenveagh, were carved from estates that were donated to the Office of Public Works.

While the six parks offer plenty of opportunities for walking, hiking, kayaking, biking, and just enjoying nature, Ireland also has a very extensive developed trail system. The National Trails Office was established in 2007 by the Irish Sports Council to coordinate and drive the implementation of an Irish Trails Strategy, and to promote the use of recreational trails

in Ireland. There are currently 927 recognized trails. (See more information at irishtrails.ie)

One of my favorite things in Ireland is the many paths that lead you to castles, dolmens, ring forts, and other ruins in the Irish countryside... through a farmer’s field, a wooded forest, or a steep cliff, the paths of Ireland will give you the best views of Ireland’s hidden secrets. One of Ireland’s newest and biggest tourism draws is the Wild Atlantic Way. □ The 1,553 mile driving route passes through nine counties and three provinces, stretching from County Donegal’s Inishowen Peninsula in Ulster to Kinsale, County Cork, in Munster, on the Celtic Sea coast. Along the route there are 157 discovery points, 1,000 attractions, and more than 2,500 activities.

The *Slí na Sláinte* is an initiative developed by the Irish Heart Foundation, with the aim to encourage and increase the number of people walking in the Republic of Ireland. Trained walking leaders promote and lead walks in their area and help them achieve awards when targets are met. (I’m pretty sure they modeled this program on Trail Works!)

Cosáin Sásta... Happy Trails...

BETHANY COMELLA

Trail Works Treasurer

Our **ANNUAL MEETING** will be held on Tuesday, March 20th at Park Presbyterian Church (110 Maple Court, Newark) at 7:00 p.m. in the lounge.

Trail Works is seeking individuals to help guide the organization in the 2018-2019 year by serving on our board.

If interested, please email trailworks@trailworks.org or speak with a current board member.

Newsletter Submissions

Please note that the deadline for submissions for the Spring 2018 “TWI-Lights” newsletter is March 15th.

Please be sure to send all submissions to Bethany at bella.comella@gmail.com.

WHERE HAVE ALL THE TRACKS GONE?

It's President's weekend in 1979, I was manager of Nordic Pines Cross Country ski center (former Spring Farm). We had taken an advertisement out on WHAM 1180 to invite people to come and enjoy the wonders of Nordic skiing. The conditions were perfect with an eight inch base and over 15 km of groomed trails through a beautiful pine and hardwood setting. In the rental shop we had sixty pairs of skis. On Saturday at 2:00 p.m. we ran out of skis. What was I to do? I ended up calling Snow Country, an outdoor store in Canandaigua, N.Y. I rented an additional 20 pairs of skis. It was a good thing that I did that for we almost rented them all. On Monday we had over 250 skiers skiing in Wayne County, not up in Lake Placid. It was so wonderful to see skiers of all ages traversing the trails. My job each day was to groom the trails laying a perfect track for everyone to follow. Having a perfect trail resulted in happy skiers and repeat skiers for many years to come.

Fast forward to the winter of 2017 and 2018. We have public trails everywhere as a result of the 30 Wegmans passport trails in Wayne County with over twenty of them perfect for Cross Country skiing, but there is only one problem, I don't see any fresh ski tracks even along the Erie Canal trail which is a wonderful trail for beginners. I have been skiing almost everyday this winter and the only thing sharing my tracks are deer and coyotes. We did

Have they ever ventured out on a sunny winter day? With fresh snow it can be delightful and peaceful.

have a wonderful turnout on the January first ski along the Erie Canal trail with a mix of snowshoes and skiers, but I didn't see any families with young children like I did on that day at Nordic Pines. I often hear people complaining about the snow and how cold it is out. Have they ever ventured out on a sunny winter day with fresh snow? It can be delightful and

peaceful. Recently a friend posted a photo of her skiing in Booneville with miles of perfectly groomed tracks. Perhaps that would be a start,

grooming designed trails in Wayne County for skiing. Perhaps sections of the Erie Canal trail along with three or four passport trails in Wayne County. Grooming would involve a snowmobile with a tracker but it would be worth it. Maybe we could work with some of the local snowmobile clubs to lay down a track for us. We can all share the same path for the benefit of all. Perhaps by having a nice groomed trail for training we could have a future Olympian in Wayne County. It all starts with a track.

Happy Winter Trails,
MARK DECRAKER
Trail Works President

See the pictures from Mark's skiing adventures on our Facebook page! [Facebook.com/TrailWorks](https://www.facebook.com/TrailWorks)

trail works calendar

FEBRUARY & MARCH 2018

date	event	date	event
FEBRUARY 4	Winter Hike/XCSki/Snowshoe May Apple Farm, 2-4:00 p.m.	TBD	Film Screening: The 46ers Location & Time TBD
FEBRUARY 13	Monthly Meeting LNB, Macedon, 7:00 p.m.	MARCH 15	"TWI-Lights" newsletter deadline
FEBRUARY 16-19	Great Backyard Bird Count www.BirdCount.org	MARCH 20	Annual & Monthly Meetings Park Presbyterian, 7:00 p.m.
FEBRUARY 27	Trails Committee Craft 120, Newark, Noon	MARCH 27	Trails Committee Craft 120, Newark, Noon